

SCHOOL FOR HOUSEWIVES.

By Marion Harland.

PRACTICAL HINTS FOR THE HOUSEKEEPER.

"I saw in the paper lately a question about putting up beets in glass jars. I can tell you all my beets in the fall, and they are just like new beets for a year. I wash and cut top and roots off, then boil till tender and throw them into cold water. The skin comes off then very easily. I put into jars, cut into pieces, and heat my vinegar, generally boiling it. I always keep a few small red beets out that I never cook, cutting them into little pieces and putting some in the bottom of each jar. I put in my cooked beets, then the hot vinegar, pepper and salt, the vinegar to suit taste; seal the jar up tightly and set away. I have beets the year around and leave none in the cellar to make dirt."

"I think 'N. M. B.' in the paper of the 18th of April is like me; the ants are so fine many people eat them and don't see them, so, of course, they are not bothered by ants. I surely feel sorry for her, as I had the same trouble yet I am a pretty fair housekeeper."

"I put paris green from the door of my sitting room to the cupboard, and in the cupboard along the edge of the shelves, and I never saw an ant after a day or two. I shall be ready for them this summer if they make their appearance."

"P. S.—Marion Harland, I wish I could give you a nice bowl of trailing arbutus, as I can get so much here, and I know it is scarce with you."

"I echo the wish with all my heart. Yet the friendly thought is not a bad substitute for the dainty darlings, so fragile to sight, in reality so brave and hardy. Like Dick Swiveler's Marchioness, I shall 'make believe very hard' all the day that I have them."

"I am refurbishing my two second-story bedrooms and would like to know what would be nice for the bureau, as mine never looks nice."

"Where could I get new slides for my ice chest? I would like something clean-looking; mine are always spotted and they must be scrubbed with soap. I should like something that the maid could wash, something white or glass."

"How can one wash clothes to keep them white and what kind of soap should one use?"

"1. Have a white linen cover to fit the top of the bureau, embroidered in wash silk, or with white working cotton, or with a drawn-work border and plain center. Arrange on this a pin-cushion, toilet articles, such as comb, brush, button hook, etc. Comb and brush should be in a china tray, and hairpins in an ornamental 'holder' of some kind. Avoid the cluttered look bureau tops usually have. Leave room for the person who is dressing to lay down collars and other small objects."

"A pretty pin cushion now in vogue is a roll about eight inches long and less than four inches in diameter, covered, first, with colored silk to match the furnishings of the room, then with muslin, dotted or plain, with a wide ruffle of same all around the cushion. A head rest, similar in shape, material and make, but somewhat larger, is fastened to the back of the easiest chair in the room."

"If you have essence bottles on your bureau, see that they are not empty. They mean less than nothing when kept for show."

"2. You can get glass slides from any house furnishing establishment. The next best thing is to have your wooden slides covered on both sides with zinc. It is less expensive than glass, and the slides will be more durable. But they are clean and durable."

"3. I repeat directions given several weeks ago by a member of the Exchange."

"I have whitened clothes by putting a small quantity of chloride of lime in a tub of cold water. Let the clothes remain in it for several hours after they have been washed and rinsed. After standing in the chloride of lime, rinse thoroughly again. I have used this without any injury to the clothes, and it will whiten them. The quantity of lime, before it is dissolved, should be one tablespoonful to a good-sized tub. I also add borax, to soften the water."

"You should have no trouble in keeping your clothes white in summer if you have a good bleaching ground."

"Please tell me of something to clean russet shoes without making them very dark."

"I would like to say that the cleaning process for russet shoes is not as simple as you think. I have tried it successfully. Of course, you must brush as much dust as possible out before applying the polish."

"1.—One girl cleans hers with naphtha; another recommends cutting a banana in half and cleaning the shoes with the inside, polishing afterward with champagne skin. Neither process darkens the shoes very much—so the girls say."

"2.—It will be recollected that the aforesaid process was the application of rather coarse cornmeal to the shoe. The first layer should be slightly moistened, brushed in hard, then swept off before the second supply of meal (dry) goes on. A little salt added to the dry cornmeal will keep the straw from yellowing."

"I have a rubber plant and have transplanted it into a larger pot. Since then the leaves are drooping and it seems to be dying. Will you or anyone tell me of a remedy to enliven it again?"

"Mrs. J. G." Plants usually droop for some days after transplantation. The roots have not begun to take hold of the new soil, and draw no sustenance from it. The plant is fasting unwillingly. Give it time! Set it out of doors, water it judiciously and give it shade for half the day."

"Enclosed is a sample of dress goods. I would like to dye it myself if you think I can, and what color would you suggest? What dyes do you recommend? Another thing—the dyes generally run either for all cotton or all silk or all wool, whereas my goods is both cotton and wool. How would you use the dyes? Will you kindly give me full instructions?"

"C. M." Frankly, I know nothing of amateur dyeing. As frankly I confess that I have never seen perfectly satisfactory results from other people's ventures in this direction. There must be fast colors that may be achieved by a novice in the art, but I am not fortunate enough to know anything of them yet. And from my youth up I have never been able to tell others how to accomplish what I cannot comprehend for myself. My advice to you is to take the goods to a dyer."

"Please give me some suggestions how to paint a drug store with low ceiling, sides and top unadorned that have been painted dark. I want to paint ceiling and sides so as to make the room seem higher, and shelving and counters to correspond."

"Mrs. S. S. D." Paint the walls terra cotta, taking care not to have it too dark, and the ceiling a soft reddish cream color. The edges of the shelves should be a little darker than the walls."



THE AMERICAN GIRL AT THE CORONATION—VISITING THE TOWER OF LONDON.—Drawn by Malcolm Strauss.

HOW ANY CAREFUL NEEDLEWOMAN MAY MAKE A PRETTY IRISH POINT LACE COLLAR AND TRIMMINGS TO MATCH

ONE of the essential features of Irish lace is the edgings. There are many varieties of these little edgings, and several have already been presented to the readers of this column. The two illustrated here separately are very pretty and useful for many purposes besides finishing Irish lace."

Edging No. 1.—The row of open spaces along the foundation chain is not made separately, but is made by degrees while proceeding with the little leaves of the pattern. First Row.—On the foundation chain make trebles, each separated by 1 chain (chain 1, miss 1, treble on next); then chain 3, fasten on fourth stitch, turn and * chain 5, 1 treble; chain 3, 1 treble; chain 3, 1 treble; chain 5, fasten on fourth treble of foundation; make 2 doubles, 1 half-treble, 3 trebles, 1 chain 3, fasten on fourth treble; chain 5, 2 doubles, 1 half-treble, 3 trebles, 1 half-treble and 2 doubles under each chain of three; do the same under chain 5; 4 more doubles under 4 chain of little stem; treble on foundation chain and begin at first row."

Edging No. 2.—This edging is very showy, yet easy to make. After arranging your lace border to an even * 1 double in every stitch of chain; then * chain 7, miss 1 space, fasten on treble; chain 7, miss 1 space, fasten on next treble."

Second Row.—Turn, make 3 doubles, 1 picot, 3 doubles, 1 picot, 3 doubles under last loop of 7 chain; under next loop make 3 doubles, 1 picot, 3 doubles and turn; chain 7, fasten in middle of first loop filled, turn and fill the last 7 chain as you did the first, and finish the second loop with half a picot, 3 doubles, 1 picot, 3 doubles. Leave a space of 5 doubles between scallops."

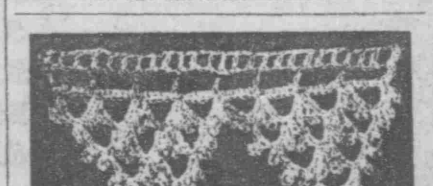
The larger pattern of 2 scallops shows how a pretty turnover collar can be made in the same way. After working the narrower edge, one will easily understand the way of widening the pattern."

This collar is of typical Irish lace. A sailor collar, made also of Irish lace, or a bolero, would complete the set to

perfection. The collar illustrated on April 27, worn with the stock collar herewith illustrated, would make a handsome combination."

Seven different devices are used in this stock collar, two of which (the shamrock and rolling thistle) have been described in a previous article."

The shamrock used in this collar is formed in a group of three, while the one previously illustrated was single; but one will easily see, from the illustration, how to work it in groups. The lower shamrock is made first, and when the three leaflets have been completed, work 3 doubles on the stem, and instead of going back to base of stem to complete A, chain 40, and make the 3 leaflets of the farthest shamrock at the



end; then make 40 doubles over 35 of chain 40, and make the other shamrock, by chain 3, 3 leaflets, 9 doubles over chain 3, and doubles in each stitch of lower stem. Turn, and make 1 double in each stitch of stem (both the main stem, and small stem of shamrock last made); then 1 double in each stitch of the 3 leaflets, then 1 double in each stitch of long stem, and all around the 3 leaflets of last shamrock."

On right hand side of shamrock, the thistle and the little square devices have both been described before. The last device at right end is made thus: Chain 2, close in a ring; chain 10, double treble in ring; * chain 6, treble in ring; * repeat from * twice more; chain 6, and fasten on 4th of chain 10. Fill under each chain of 6, with * 2 doubles, 1 picot, 3 doubles, 1 picot and 3 doubles."

Third.—Over 1 treble of last row make 3 chain for a treble; * chain 5, treble between 2 picots, chain 5, treble on next

treble, and repeat from * to * 3 times more."

Fourth.—Nine doubles under each chain of 5."

Fifth.—One double in each double all around."

Sixth.—One double in each double with 1 picot on each fifth double."

Rose.—The rose device on the left side of shamrock is made in this way: Wind your thread about thirty times on a small pencil, and fill this ring with 40 half-trebles. Now make 1 double in each stitch, with 1 picot of 7 chain in every other stitch."

Next row, chain 20, turn, and fasten on ring, leaving 2 doubles between; turn and make 25 doubles under this ring; make 2 single stitches on center ring; * chain 15, fasten on 8th double of last bar, turn and make 20 doubles under loop; make 2 singles on center ring; * and repeat from * to * 5 times more. Chain 35 for stem, turn and make 40 doubles under chain 35, and going around the bars, work 1 double in each double, with 1 picot on every third or fourth stitch."

The smaller wheels or devices used as filling need no directions."

RECIPES.

Planked Shad.

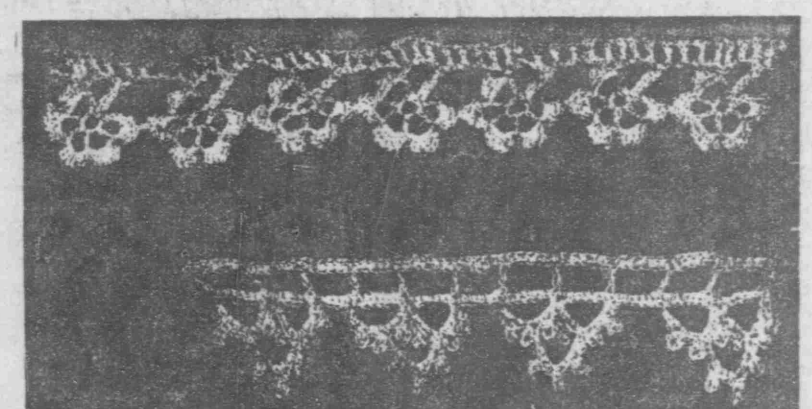
Season your plank in an open oven, turning every two minutes until it is hot all through; fasten the fish, skin downward, to the board with large tin tacks driven lightly into the edges; rub with butter, pepper and salt, and incline at a gentle angle in front of a glowing grate, or put it into a moderate oven. Cook half an hour, buttering three times during the process."

You may transfer it to a hot dish after drawing the tacks, but "the thing" is to serve it upon the plank, laying the latter upon a large platter, and hiding the edges of the board with water cresses."

Pass sliced lemon with it."

Stuffed Bass.

Clean the fish and lay for an hour in a "marinade" of oil and lemon juice,



turning several times. Then prepare a forcemeat of fine crumbs, chopping mushrooms and a little minced pork and seasoned with pepper and onion juice. Sew up the fish and lay upon the grating of your "covered roaster." (You ought to have one, if you have not!) Anoint with two tablespoonfuls of best salad oil, put half a cupful of hot water in the bottom of the roaster, just touching the fish, put on the cover and get in a good oven. A large fish will not be done under an hour. Baste twice with the water in the pan, and once with butter, test minutely before serving."

Send around Hollandaise sauce, and pass Parisian potatoes with it."

"1.—Would you please give me a recipe for planking shad, and how to make and prepare the plank?"

"2.—I would also like to know how to take coat off out of a floor and inquette carpet and rug."

1.—For directions see recipe column."

Have a board that will just hold a large shad. Oak or ash, poplar or hickory is preferable to pine. It should be thoroughly seasoned. Many of the "planks" sold for this purpose in shops are of green wood, and split or warp when exposed to the fire. Have it planed on both sides and heat very gradually the first time it is used."

2.—Cover with powdered fuller's earth worked to a stiff paste with household ammonia. Let it remain for twenty-four hours before brushing off."

The Book Agent.

(Brooklyn Life.)

Agent—I have a book you should buy for your son, telling how to become a politician, statesman, president of the United States, banker, broker—

"Mrs. Housley—G'wan, did yer mother buy wan for you?"

A Way Out.

(Exchange.)

"George," the sweet girl pleaded, "you simply must dye your hair."

"Ridiculous!" exclaimed Mr. Townsend, "No, it isn't. A fortune teller told me today I'd marry a dark-haired man."

Looking Blue For Milkman.

(Cleveland Plain Dealer.)

"I more than suspect our milkman."

"Of what do you suspect him?"

"Of trying to work the Filipino water cure on us. Look at the color of that milk!"

Malicious Lie.

(New York Times.)

"I hear the crowd assailed you when you appeared at the Porttown opera house."

"The false, traitorous," replied the heavy tragedian, "there was no crowd."

CARE OF CHILDREN AND PARENTS' CORNER.

MANY times I have thought I must write to you when I saw something in your column that appealed to me! But at last I am moved to speak by the children's corner. I am sorry this morning to see you give a warning against what is to me a standard remedy. Boric or boric acid is one of the most useful things in my medicine chest, and I keep always a little box of it in the baby's basket. My physician describes it as the mildest of the antiseptics. A pinch of it goes in the water with which I wash the baby's face, and I wash the eyes (but with warm water) at the first sign of inflammation or matter in the corners that often comes from cold. It is a perfectly safe eye wash for young or old, and one application will usually cure an incipient case of pink-eye. It is also fine dusting powder in case of chafing or an eruption where the skin is broken. I think any physician or druggist will corroborate me in this. I have found Dr. Griffith's book on 'The Care of the Baby' to be a work of reference. The rule which he gives for the use of boric acid is one-half ounce to a pint of water. I wish I could talk to the mother who wants to find recitations for her little boys. My boy has been reciting since he was two-and-a-half, and his memory is splendid now. I choose only good verses, but childish ones, that he can recite with thorough understanding. He is now 8 years old, and I shall soon teach him some standard classics, but I do not think it right to push his understanding in the least."

"He enjoys 'Horatius,' too, but he is not ready to memorize it; for when he does he will want to know the whole history of Rome and the meaning of every classical allusion. His memory would take in anything, for as a test lately I have taught him Goethe's 'Vielchen' in German, and he repeats it perfectly with expression, while finding it hard to remember the English meaning. I do not encourage his reciting for friends and relatives, but he has an elocution class at school, and so learns new pieces as a matter of course and with entire unconsciousness. I am making scrap-books for him, placing one cutting on a page and surrounding it with pictures illustrating A taken from magazines. Many verses by Laura Richards are good; they have been published largely in St. Nicholas. Her verses are also collected in book form, which I have obtained from the Children's Public Library. Some of Eugene Field's, too, are charming. The library has fine collections of them all."

Borax, or boric acid, used by the advice and according to the prescription of a physician, is a very different thing from the "borax" of commerce, used freely in our laundries and bath-rooms. When I warn young mothers not to apply drugs in nursery practice, without professional counsel, I have possibilities in mind of which my delightful correspondent may not have thought. Borax, in the shape she finds valuable in her nursery, was never out of mine during the beautiful years "when our children were babies."

"In the 'Care of Children' column in the Sunday paper I have noticed so many requests from mothers for a formula for babies' foods, that I thought you might, perhaps, be glad to know of a book on the subject that could be recommended to anyone wishing it. The book is 'The Care and Feeding of Children,' by L. Emmett Holt, M. D., published by D. Appleton & Co., price 50 cents. It contains, besides chapters on bathing, care of the eyes, mouth, skin and numerous other subjects, formulae for modifying milk for babies from birth upward, in varying proportions and strengths, according to age. The bringing up of babies, especially 'bottle babies,' is becoming such a science nowadays, when it seems to be becoming more and more frequent for mothers to be unable to nurse their babies, or to know so many things as to do so, that a common-sense, practical little manual like this is very great help."

"G. A." Dr. Holt's name and reputation are so well known to all children lovers in this part of the world that "C. G. A." should have a vote of thanks from the 'Corner' for recommending it. The manual she recommends."

I congratulate other mothers with myself upon the signs of awakening interest in this subject. When the spacious drawer of the editorial desk labeled "Children" is filled to bursting with eager communications my heart will be exceedingly glad."

"I turn to you in my perplexity, hoping that you will help me with your kind advice as to how to punish others who ask you. I am married to a widower, who has five children, three boys and two girls. It is about them I am writing. The oldest girl is 11 and the youngest 7. They are both good girls, considering the little training they have had. Their mother was sick a long time before she died. But the oldest has two terrible failings, which trouble me sorely, namely, untruthfulness and dishonesty."

"I have used every means I know to bring about a change—speaking to her of her dead mother, or punishing her, or trying to win her through kindness, and all to no avail. Only yesterday, when I had gone away for the day, she took money from her brother's pocket and bought candy and ice cream, and the worst of it is, she induced her little innocent sister to take some also. Here is where I am puzzled as to what to do. Am I doing right in allowing her to ruin her little sister? For we cannot watch her continually, and if we send her to some institution it may spoil her altogether."

"I am fighting against this with all my might, for I think I am doing wrong. I think the best thing to do in this way, but it is a hard struggle. Please tell me what to do!"

"A TROUBLED MOTHER."

Your task is heavy and hard. Yet you are in one sense more bound to the performance of it than if the poor ailing child were yours by birth. You assumed the thought voluntarily, and with your eyes open. It is your sacred mission, an office to which you devoted yourself when you uttered the vows that united you in marriage to these children's father. From your letter I know you to be a sincere, God-fearing woman. He has made your line of labor, your trial of faith and patience very clear. Humanly speaking, if this child is to be saved you must do it."

I am thankful that you shrink from the thought of putting her into the hands of hired officials. Keep her with you, and keep her closer to you than you keep her sister. Get hold of her heart, teach her to love you, a good woman who hates a lie and abhors dishonesty. Deal with her unhappy proclivity as you would with a physical disorder from which everybody who does not love her would shrink in disgust. Let her comprehend that you cannot and will not put her away, because you love her and God loves her. Help her to overcome the sinful tendency by trusting her whenever you can, and commending her when she struggles with herself."